

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 09 2015

RE: S.R. No. 44  
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and  
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.R. No. 44 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
UNITED STATES TO SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION TO  
EXPEDITE FAMILY REUNIFICATION FOR CERTAIN FILIPINO VETERANS  
OF WORLD WAR II,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the  
President of the United States and United States Congress to  
support legislation to expedite family reunification for certain  
Filipino veterans of World War II.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the State Office of Veterans Services; Hawaii Civil Rights  
Commission; Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Hawaii;  
and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that during World War II, nearly one  
hundred thousand soldiers of the Philippine Commonwealth Army  
fought alongside United States and Allied forces for four long  
years to defend and reclaim the Philippine Islands from Japanese  
aggression. In 1990, the United States Congress enacted  
legislation that provided Filipino veterans with a waiver from  
certain immigration and naturalization requirements in recognition  
of the courage and loyalty of the Filipino veterans who fought  
alongside United States Armed Forces in the Pacific during World  
War II. However, the 1990 legislation did not go far enough in



extending immigration and naturalization benefits to the children of Filipino veterans, resulting in years of long separation between the veterans and their children remaining in the Philippines awaiting the issuance of immigrant visas. Legislation advancing family reunification for certain Filipino veterans of World War II will honor the veterans' courage, sacrifice, and loyalty.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 44, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.R. No. 44, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental and Military  
Affairs,



WILL ESPERO, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs**  
**PSM**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SR 44</b>	Committee Referral: <b>PSM</b>	Date: <b>4-7-15</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313</div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
ESPERO, Will (C)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (VC)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood				✓
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.				✓
SLOM, Sam	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> <span>Original File with Committee Report</span> <span>Yellow Clerk's Office</span> <span>Pink Drafting Agency</span> <span>Goldenrod Committee File Copy</span> </div>				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes